

We claim:

1. A method of treating a patient suffering from accumulation of a metabolite within macrophages, said method comprising treating the patient with a macrophage depleting amount of a bisphosphonate compound, such that apoptosis of macrophages is induced and the metabolite is released into circulation so that it may be eliminated from the patient.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the bisphosphonate compound is clodronate.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the patient is suffering from Gaucher's disease, and the metabolite is GL1.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising administering to the patient a composition of purified recombinant glucocerebrosidase.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the patient is suffering from Niemann-Pick disease, and the metabolite is sphingomyelin.
6. The method of claim 5, further comprising administering to the patient a composition of purified recombinant acid sphingomyelinase.
7. A method of treating a patient suffering from accumulation of a metabolite within macrophages, said method comprising treating the patient with a macrophage depleting amount of a bisphosphonate compound, such that apoptosis of macrophages is induced, and administering to the patient a gene therapy vector encoding a compound which is able to break down the accumulated metabolite.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the patient is suffering from Gaucher's disease, and the gene therapy vector encodes glucocerebrosidase.
9. The method of claim 8, further comprising administering to the patient a composition of purified recombinant glucocerebrosidase.
10. The method of claim 7, wherein the patient is suffering from Niemann-Pick disease, and the gene therapy vector encodes acid sphingomyelinase

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising administering to the patient a composition of purified recombinant acid sphingomyelinase.
12. The method of claim 7, wherein the patient is suffering from Fabry's disease, and the gene therapy vector encodes alpha galactosidase A.
13. The method of claim 12, further comprising administering to the patient a composition of purified recombinant alpha-galactosidase.
14. The method of claim 7, wherein the patient is suffering from Pompe disease, and the gene therapy vector encodes alpha glucosidase.
15. The method of claim 14, further comprising administering to the patient a composition of purified recombinant alpha glucosidase.
16. The method of claim 7, wherein the patient is suffering from Hurler's Disease (MPS-I), and the gene therapy vector encodes alpha-L iduronidase.
17. The method of claim 16, further comprising administering to the patient a composition of purified recombinant alpha-L iduronidase.
18. The method of claim 7, further comprising administration of a macrophage depleting or macrophage inhibiting compound selected from the group consisting of doxycirubin, gamma globulin, and neutral polymers.